

Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver Historical Timeline

JANUARY 4, 1934 - MICHIGAN GOV. WILLIAM COMSTOCK REQUESTS MT. PLEASANT INDIAN SCHOOL SITE FROM U.S. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

FEBRUARY 15, 1934 - TRANSFER OF MT. PLEASANT INDIAN SCHOOL IS AUTHORIZED BY FEDERAL STATUTE 353. WITH CONDITION THAT MICHIGAN INDIANS BE EDUCATED "...WITHOUT FURTHER COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT."

MAY 28, 1934 - GOV. WILLIAM COMSTOCK ACCEPTS MT. PLEASANT INDIAN SCHOOL SITE AND THE RESPONSIBILITY TO EDUCATE MICHIGAN INDIAN RESIDENTS IN STATE INSTITUTIONS "...WITHOUT FURTHER COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT."

OCTOBER 29, 1934 - OTTAWAS OF HIGH ISLAND ARE DENIED A TEACHER AND FEDERAL EDUCATION FUNDS. INDIAN COMMISSIONER ZIMMERMAN REITERATES MT. PLEASANT INDIAN SCHOOL LEGISLATION AS LAW PROVIDING THAT INDIANS BE EDUCATED "...WITHOUT FURTHER COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT...THAT PUBLIC SCHOOLS SHALL NOT CHARGE TUITION FOR INDIAN PUPILS."

NOVEMBER 11, 1935 - INDIAN COMMISSIONER ZIMMERMAN DENIES A REQUEST BY MICHIGAN TRIBES FOR FEDERAL EDUCATION FUNDS. ONCE AGAIN MT. PLEASANT INDIAN SCHOOL LEGISLATION IS SITED AS A CONDITION PRESIDENT TO THE LAND GRANT TO THE STATE OF MICHIGAN AND THAT INDIAN RESIDENTS BE EDUCATED "...WITHOUT FURTHER COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT."

1935 - 1976 - STATE OF MICHIGAN WILLFULLY NEGLECTS A CONGRESSIONAL MANDATE TO EDUCATE MICHIGAN INDIANS UNDER MT. PLEASANT INDIAN SCHOOL LEGISLATION.

1976 - PUBLIC ACT 174 OF 1976, MICHIGAN INDIAN TUITION WAIVER ACT IS PASSED AFTER SEVERAL ATTEMPTS.

FEBRUARY 1995 - GOV. JOHN ENGLER ANNOUNCES INTENTION TO ELIMINATE FUNDING FOR THE MICHIGAN INDIAN TUITION WAIVER. GOV. ENGLER STATES "...WAIVER HAS BEEN SUBJECT TO ABUSE AND HAS OUTLIVED IT'S USEFULNESS."